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PARTY INTEGRITY THREATENED AND ADMINISTRATION WORRIED BY FIGHT OVER CUBAN TARIFF

(Continued from Page 1.)

This signed pledge, an unprecedented thing, was drawn for the purpose of holding fast certain wavering Senators, who said they were against reciprocity, but who it was feared would desert when the pinch came.

One of these uncertain Senators was Mason of Illinois, who was induced to sign the pledge. The other signers were Clapp, Nelson, Mitchell, Burrows, Elkins, Scott, Perkins, Bard, Millard, Wellington, Kittredge and Stewart. Gamble, Dietrich and Kearns were absent, but were expected to sign later. Kearns, however, gave notice that he was under such obligations to Senator Hanna that he could not sign. It is understood that Gamble and Dietrich signed the pledge. At any rate, they are as stalwart as the others. Simon of Oregon is absent, but will be paired on the question. Foster of Washington, who has been against reciprocity, now gives signs of weakening, and is not counted among the fifteen stalwarts.

The Spooner Compromise.

Certain influential Administration Senators think they can see a way out of the tangle, by having one of the best sugar Republicans offer an amendment to the Spooner "compromise" plan providing, in addition to its present limitations, that the President shall be empowered to suspend the reciprocity agreement whenever it is found, in operation, to work injury to any American industry. Of course, sugar is the industry referred to, and it is alleged that from the prevailing prices under the new law it would be possible to tell whether Cuban competition was resulting in lower prices for American sugar, and so injuring the beet raisers. The reciprocity Senators believe that some modifications of this sort, proposed by one of their own number, would bring into line all the "insurgents" of both Senate and House. It is also argued in behalf of this plan that it proposes reciprocity strictly in line with that advanced by President McKinley at Buffalo, which he said should not injure any American industry.

ROOSEVELT SENDS A CUBAN MESSAGE

Washington, June 12.—The President today sent the following message to the Congress:

"The Senate and the House—I deem it important, before the adjournment of the present session of Congress, to call attention to the following expressions in the message which, in the discharge of the duty imposed upon me by the Constitution, I sent to Congress the first Tuesday of December last:

"Elsewhere I have discussed the question of reciprocity. In the case of Cuba, however, there are weighty reasons of morality and of national interest why the policy should be held to have a peculiar application, and I most earnestly ask your attention to the wisdom, indeed, to the vital need, of providing for a substantial reduction in the tariff duties on Cuban imports into the United States. Cuba has in her constitution affirmed what we desired, that she should stand, in international matters, in closer and more friendly relations with us than with any other power; and we are bound by every consideration of honor and expediency to pass commercial measures in the interest of her well being."

Quotations from McKinley.

"This recommendation was merely giving practical effect to President McKinley's words when, in his message of December 5, 1898, and December 5, 1899, he wrote:

"It is important that our relations with this people (of Cuba) shall be of the most friendly character and our commercial relations close and reciprocal. * * * We have accepted a trust, the fulfillment of which calls for the sternest integrity of purpose and exercise of the highest wisdom. The new Cuba yet to rise from the ashes of the past must needs be bound to us by ties of singular intimacy and strength if its enduring welfare is to be assured. The greatest blessing which can come to Cuba is the restoration of her agricultural and industrial prosperity."

Plea from Cuba.

"Yesterday, June 12, I received by cable from the American Minister in Cuba, a most earnest appeal from President Palma for legislative relief before it is too late, and his country financially ruined." The granting of reciprocity with Cuba is a proposition which stands entirely alone. The reasons for it far outweigh those for granting reciprocity with any other nation, and are entirely consistent with preserving intact the protective system under which this country has thriven so marvelously. The present tariff law was designed to promote the adoption of such a reciprocity treaty, and expressly provided for a reduction not to exceed 20 percent upon goods coming from a particular country, leaving the tariff rates on the same articles unchanged as regards all other countries. Objection has been made to the granting of the reduction on the ground that the substantial benefit would not go to the agricultural producer of sugar, but would inure to the American sugar refiners. In my judgment provision can and should be made which will guarantee us against this possibility, without having recourse to doubtful policy.

TO ADMIT CUBA AS STATE

Washington, June 14.—Senator Elkins today introduced a joint resolution in the Senate providing for the annexation of Cuba and its admission as a State of the Union. The resolution grants the consent of Congress to the erection of the Republic of Cuba as a State of the Union, "to be called the State of Cuba, with a republican form of government, a constitution to be adopted by the people of said republic by deputies in convention assembled with the consent of the existing government."

A condition is specified that the constitution of the proposed State shall be submitted to Congress not later than January 1, 1904. There is also a provision that the debts of Cuba shall not become a charge upon the general government. There is also an alternative provision giving the President, if he prefers, power to proceed in a more direct way for Cuba's admission as a State. This provision permits the admission under the terms of the resolution itself, "instead of proceeding to submit the resolution to Cuba as an overture on the part of the United States." If this latter course is pursued, a State is to be formed "out of the present Republic of Cuba, with a republican form of government, and with representatives in Congress, and be admitted into the Union by this act, on an equal footing with the existing States as soon as the terms and conditions of such admission shall be agreed upon by the governments of the Republic of Cuba and the United States."

The resolution provides for the appropriation of \$100,000 to carry its provisions into effect.

Senator Elkins, speaking of the resolution introduced today for the annexation of Cuba, said that Texas was admitted under precisely the same terms as this resolution provided for Cuba. He said he preferred the admission of Cuba in preference to granting \$6,000,000 a year on her account out of the revenues without knowing where it would go. By providing for the admission of Cuba there would be no differences in the Republic party on the subject of tariff relations with the island.

such as a bounty in the form of a rebate.

Not Tariff Discussion.

"The question as to which, if any, of the different schedules of tariff ought most properly to be revised does not enter into the matter in any way or shape. We are concerned with getting a friendly reciprocal agreement with Cuba. This arrangement applies to all the articles that Cuba grows or produces. It is not in our power to determine what these articles shall be, and any discussion of the tariff as it affects special schedules, or countries other than Cuba, is wholly aside from the subject matter to which I now call your attention."

Hawaii an Example.

"Some of our citizens oppose the lowering of the tariff on Cuban products, just as three years ago they opposed the admission of the Hawaiian Islands, lest free trade with them might ruin certain of our interests here. In the actual event their fears proved baseless as regards Hawaii, and their apprehensions as to the damage to any industry of our own because of the proposed measure of reciprocity with Cuba seem to me equally baseless. In my judgment no American industry will be hurt, and many industries will be benefited by the proposed action. It is to our advantage as a nation that the growing Cuban market should be controlled by American producers."

The events following the war with Spain and the prospective building of the isthmian canal render it certain that we must take in the future a far greater interest than hitherto in what happens throughout the West Indies, Central America and the adjacent coasts and waters. We expect Cuba to put us on an exceptional footing politically, and we should put her in the same exceptional position economically. The proposed action is in line with the course we have pursued as regards all the islands with which we have been brought into relations of varying intimacy by the Spanish war. Porto Rico and Hawaii have been included within our tariff lines, to their great benefit, as well as ours, and without any of the feared detriment to our own industries. The Philippines, which stand in a different relation, have been granted substantial tariff concessions.

Cuba is an independent republic which has assumed certain special obligations as regards her international position in compliance with our request. I ask for her certain special economic concessions in return; these economic concessions to benefit us as well as her. There are few brighter pages in American history than the page which tells of our dealings with Cuba during the past four years. On her behalf we waged a war, of which the mainprize was general indignation against oppression, and we have kept faith absolutely. It is earnestly to be hoped that we will complete in the same spirit the record so well begun, and show in our dealings with Cuba that steady continuity of policy which it is essential for our Nation to establish in foreign affairs if we desire to play well our part as a world power.

Cuba Needs Assistance.

We are a wealthy and a powerful na-

tion; Cuba is a young republic, still weak, who owes to us her birth, whose whole future, whose very life must depend on our attitude toward her. I ask that we help her as she struggles upward along the painful and difficult road of self-government and independence. I ask this aid for her because she is weak, because she needs it, because we have already aided her. I ask that open-handed help, of a kind which a self-respecting people can accept, be given to Cuba for the very reason that we have given her such help in the past. Our soldiers fought to give her such help in the past. Our soldiers fought to give her freedom, and for three years our representatives, civil and military, have toiled unceasingly, facing disease of a peculiarly sinister and fatal type with patient and uncomplaining fortitude to teach her how to use aright her new freedom. Never in history has any alien country been thus administered with such high integrity of purpose, such wise judgment and such a single-minded devotion to the country's interests. Now, I ask that the Cubans be given all possible chance to use to the best advantage the freedom of which Americans have such right to be proud and for which so many American lives have been sacrificed.

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

"White House, June 12, 1902."

RECIPROCITY ADVOCATES THINK THEY'VE WON

Washington, June 14.—The present plans of the Senatorial supporters of Cuban reciprocity are to press the question to an issue next week. This was the result of the conference held today and yesterday. The Republican members of the Committee on Cuban Relations will meet either Monday or Tuesday, and finally agree upon the exact terms of the bill to be reported as a substitute for the House bill. The measure thus agreed upon will be reported to a Republican caucus to be held Tuesday or Wednesday, and if the caucus indorses the measure it then will be brought before a meeting of the full Committee on Cuban Relations and reported to the Senate. The desire is to have all this done by the time the isthmian canal bill is disposed of on Thursday, so that the reciprocity bill may be given the first place in the order of business.

The reciprocity advocates still profess the utmost confidence in their ability to pass through the Senate any bill that may be recommended by the committee and caucus. They count largely upon the unwillingness of Republican members to align themselves strictly with the opposition against a bill that has been made a party measure by the President's message, and there are indications that at least in some instances this prognostication will prove sound.

The critical point will come upon the acceptance of the House bill with its amendment for the removal of the differential duty on refined sugar. The beet-sugar Republicans are all protectionists, and there has been from the beginning a division as to the expediency of adopting a policy looking to the abolition of this duty. This opposition found evidence in Thursday's beet sugar caucus, but the decision to stand by the House bill as amended was secured largely upon the understanding that such a course would inevitably result in the defeat of all legislation. Recent developments lead to the conclusion that if any considerable number of Republicans should adhere to the determination to vote with the Democrats to support the House bill it would pass the Senate.

There would then be no chance for a conference and the bill would go to the President, who, it is expected, would attach his signature and thus make a law of the bill, with the Morris amendment included. This provision would, of course, affect the beet sugar interests equally with the trust, in proportion to the extent of their refining industry, and is not desired. The beet sugar refiners say they would lose about \$500,000 annually, while the cane sugar refiners would lose \$6,000,000, but they argue that the cane sugar refiners would still have an advantage in the reduction on Cuban raw sugar.

BEET SUGAR STALWARTS SIGN AN AGREEMENT

Washington, June 12.—Another conference of stalwart Republican Senators was held today and a cast-iron pledge given to stand out against Cuban relief to the bitter end. A paper was drawn up and signed, an almost unprecedented proceeding. Fifteen names were placed on the roll, and three other Senators—Jones of Nevada, Dietrich and Kearns—are expected to sign as soon as they return from a trip down the Potomac. The meeting was held in Senator Elkins' room.

Yesterday's disclosures before the Cuban committee, when Thurber admitted direct connection of the sugar trust with the reciprocity agitation, had an encouraging effect on the beet sugar Senators, though most of them were aware of what Senator Teller had up his sleeve. The Thurber revelations were discussed today in conference, and the suggestion was made that further investigation would no

(Continued on Page 6.)

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